

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GENEVA 02288 101618Z

67

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 FEA-02

OMB-01 SWF-02 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 DRC-01 /241 W
----- 031780

R 101440Z APR 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5131

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 2288

PASS STR

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD GATT SF

SUBJ: GATT ARTICLE XXVIII NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA

REF: STATE 54748

1. LETTER DATED APRIL 9 FROM SA MISSION OFFERS FOLLOWING
WRITTEN UNDERTAKING TO US ON QR PROBLEM AS BASIS FOR CON-
CLUSION OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

BEGIN TEXT

THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN NOTE OF THE
IMPORTANCE THE UNITED STATES ATTACHES TO APPROPRIATE AND
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 GENEVA 02288 101618Z

PROMPT ACTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA TO BRING

ITS CURRENT IMPORT CONTROL MEASURES INTO FULL CONFORMITY WITH ITS GATT OBLIGATIONS.

IN THIS REGARD THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WISHES TO CONFIRM ITS POLICY TO LIBERALISE ITS QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS PROGRESSIVELY AS IT SUCCEEDS WITH ITS NEGOTIATIONS UNDER ARTICLE XXVIII, WHICH ARE AIMED AT SECURING THE NECESSARY FREEDOM TO GRANT A REASONABLE MEASURE OF TARIFF PROTECTION ON A SELECTIVE BASIS TO DESERVING SOUTH AFRICAN INDUSTRIES.

AS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS AWARE, SOUTH AFRICA'S POLICY OF SELECTIVE TARIFF PROTECTION IS BASED SOLELY ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN BOARD OF TRADE AND INDUSTRIES. THE GRANTING OF PROTECTION, THEREFORE, ONLY TAKES PLACE AFTER THE BOARD OF TRADE AND INDUSTRIES HAS EXAMINED THE INDUSTRY CONCERNED AND RECOMMENDED THE LEVEL OF TARIFF PROTECTION IT CONSIDERS SUFFICIENT AND NECESSARY IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO THAT PARTICULAR INDUSTRY. IT WILL BE APPRECIATED THAT THE HANDLING OF A LARGE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS OF THIS NATURE IS A TIME-CONSUMING EXERCISE.

BEARING IN MIND, THEREFORE, THE TIME ELEMENT THAT MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN FINALISING THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE BOARD OF TRADE AND INDUSTRIES, THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKES TO APPLY AN UNRESTRICTED IMPORT LICENSING POLICY WITH RESPECT TO NEW CONCESSIONS, CONCESSIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN MODIFIED, AS WELL AS THE CONCESSIONS WHICH ARE TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM SCHEDULE XVIII - SOUTH AFRICA, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE CURRENT ARTICLE XXVIII:5 NEGOTIATIONS WITH ALL THE CONTRACTING PARTIES CONCERNED.

THIS UNDERTAKING IS GIVEN WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO SOUTH AFRICA'S FUTURE RIGHTS UNDER THE GENERAL AGREEMENT, AND IN PARTICULAR THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE XII.
END TEXT

2. COMMENT: THIS UNDERTAKING APPROACHES WHAT WE HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 GENEVA 02288 101618Z

BEEN SEEKING BUT STRIKES US AS TOO OPEN-ENDED ABOUT TIMING OF IMPLEMENTATION. IF SAG UNABLE SETTLE A BILATERAL XXVIII NEGOTIATION WITH A RELATIVELY MINOR TRADING PARTNER BUT DOES REACH AGREEMENT WITH US AND OTHER CPS WHO MAY HOLD INRS OR BE PRINCIPAL SUPPLIERS OF ITEMS INVOLVED IN US-SA NEGOTIATION, TEXT QUOTED ABOVE WOULD ENABLE SA TO INTRODUCE MAJOR TARIFF CHANGES BUT DEFER IMPLEMENTATION OF QR UNDERTAKING ON GROUNDS BILATERAL

NEGOTIATIONS WITH, SAY, BRAZIL STILL INCOMPLETE.
SUGGEST WE ASK SA TO SUBSTITUTE PHRASE QUOTE UPON THE
APPLICATION OF TARIFF CHANGES RESULTING FROM UNQUOTE FOR
QUOTE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER UNQUOTE IN PENULTIMATE
PARA OF SA TEXT. DELETION OF QUOTE ALL UNQUOTE BEFORE
CPS IN SAME PARA ALSO DESIRABLE BUT PROBABLY NOT ESSEN-
TIAL OF PRECEDING CHANGE ACCEPTED.

3. REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS. MILLER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE PROMOTION, CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, FARM EQUIPMENT, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GENEVA02288
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740082-0933
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740453/aaaabvnd.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 54748
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <06-Aug-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GATT ARTICLE XXVIII NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA
TAGS: ETRD, SF, SZ, US, GATT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005